



COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD



WATER SUPPLY RESERVE ACCOUNT APPLICATION FORM

Today's Date: December 8, 2014

Water Diplomats: University Students & the State Water Plan:
Education, Outreach & Public Engagement: 2015 steps towards

Name of Water Activity/Project

Metropolitan State University of Denver
One World One Water Center for Urban Water Education, Stewardship

Name of Applicant

Metro Basin Roundtable
(\$4,575)
South Platte Basin
Roundtable (Letter of
Support)

Amount from Statewide Account:

\$24,300

Amount from Basin Account(s):

\$ 4,575

Total WSRA Funds Requested:

\$28,875

Approving Basin Roundtable(s)

(If multiple basins specify amounts in parentheses.)

FEIN: 84-0559160;DUNS:835449125

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

Part I. - Description of the Applicant (Project Sponsor or Owner);

1.	Applicant Name(s):	Metropolitan State University of Denver One World One Water Center for Urban Water Education and Stewardship		
	Mailing address:	Campus Box 8 P.O. Box 173362 Denver, CO 80217-3362		
	FEIN #:	84-0559160		
	Primary Contact:	Elizabeth McVicker	Position/Title:	Associate Professor
	Email:	emcvicke@msudenver.edu		
	Phone Numbers:	Cell: 720-480-9290	Office:	303-556-3064
	Alternate Contact:	Tom Cech	Position/Title:	Director, OWOW
	Email:	ttech@msudenver.edu		
	Phone Numbers:	Cell: 970-371-9598	Office:	970-371-9598

2. Eligible entities for WSRA funds include the following. What type of entity is the Applicant?

- ☒ **xx** Public (Government) – municipalities, enterprises, counties, and State of Colorado agencies. Federal agencies are encouraged to work with local entities and the local entity should be the grant recipient. Federal agencies are eligible, but only if they can make a compelling case for why a local partner cannot be the grant recipient.
- ☐ Public (Districts) – authorities, Title 32/special districts, (conservancy, conservation, and irrigation districts), and water activity enterprises.
- ☐ Private Incorporated – mutual ditch companies, homeowners associations, corporations.
- ☐ Private individuals, partnerships, and sole proprietors are eligible for funding from the Basin Accounts but not for funding from the Statewide Account.
- ☐ Non-governmental organizations – broadly defined as any organization that is not part of the government.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

3. Provide a brief description of your organization

Metropolitan State University of Denver (MSU Denver) provides students with a transformative academic experience and serves the community as a courageous change agent and a gateway to opportunity. The University's broad access, affordable tuition, quality academic experience, and excellent outcomes add up to a high value education.

The One World One Water Center for Urban Water Education & Stewardship at MSU Denver strives to prepare an educated, empowered, solution-oriented Colorado citizenry to protect and preserve our precious water resources. MSU Denver fulfills the mission in three ways:

- Offer an interdisciplinary, hands-on Water Studies minor for students from diverse backgrounds and in any major;
- Provide co-curricular enrichment activities to the entire student population of the Auraria Campus, which includes MSU Denver, the University of Colorado – Denver, and the Community College of Denver;
- Enhance water stewardship on and beyond campus for the effective use of water resources.

The Water Studies Minor will provide students with skills necessary to become more knowledgeable of Colorado's limited water resources, and how to preserve this most precious resource.

4. If the Contracting Entity is different then the Applicant (Project Sponsor or Owner) please describe the Contracting Entity here. NA

5. Successful applicants will have to execute a contract with the CWCB prior to beginning work on the portion of the project funded by the WSRA grant. In order to expedite the contracting process the CWCB has established a standard contract with provisions the applicant must adhere to. A link to this standard contract is included in Appendix 3. Please review this contract and check the appropriate box.

☒ The Applicant will be able to contract with the CWCB using the Standard Contract

☐ The Applicant has reviewed the standard contract and has some questions/issues/concerns. Please be aware that any deviation from the standard contract could result in a significant delay between grant approval and the funds being available.

6. The Tax Payer Bill of Rights (TABOR) may limit the amount of grant money an entity can receive. Please describe any relevant TABOR issues that may affect the applicant. NA

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

Part II. - Description of the Water Activity/Project

1. What is the primary purpose of this grant application? (Please check only one)

☐

Nonconsumptive (Environmental or Recreational)

☐

Agricultural

☐

Municipal/Industrial

☐

Needs Assessment

☒

Education

☐

Other

Explain:

2. If you feel this project addresses multiple purposes please explain.

Education opportunities for the State's university students and dissemination of information on the State Water Plan; furtherance of the goals and objectives articulated in Chapter 9.5 of the State Plan.

3. Is this project primarily a study or implementation of a water activity/project? (Please check only one)

☐

Study

☒

Implementation

4. To catalog measurable results achieved with WSRA funds can you provide any of the following numbers?

New Storage Created (acre-feet)

New Annual Water Supplies Developed, Consumptive or Nonconsumptive (acre-feet)

Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)

Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)

Length of Pipe/Canal Built or Improved (linear feet)

Efficiency Savings (acre-feet/year OR dollars/year – **circle one**)

Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)

☒

Other -- Explain:

The Metrics similar to those in 9.5 of State Plan

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

4. To help us map WSRA projects please include a map (Exhibit B) and provide the general coordinates below:

Latitude: 39.7392 N.

Longitude: 104.9847 W

5. Please provide an overview/summary of the proposed water activity (no more than one page). Include a description of the overall water activity and specifically what the WSRA funding will be used for. A full **Statement of Work** with a detailed budget and schedule is required as **Exhibit A** of this application.

Section 9.5 of the Colorado State Water Plan addresses Outreach, Education and Public Engagement, specifically noting that the Water Plan “provides technical and financial assistance for high quality, balanced, and grassroots water education and outreach efforts that inform Coloradans about the issues so they engage in determining Colorado’s water future.” The Plan recognizes the extensive work that has occurred to help educate and engage local stakeholders and the ongoing water education activities that advance the plan’s goals. Section 9.5 charts a path to expand this work in the future, specifically for 2015 and beyond. The Plan proposes the creation of a new outreach, education and public engagement grant fund; this current proposal would be the first step towards the sustained educational outreach, education and engagement activities that the State Plan envisions and serve as a precursor to those educational activities in 2016 and beyond, funded by CWCB. This applicant recognizes the many current effective efforts that are on-going for youth education in this State; this application is focused on university student participation.

The Metro and South Platte Basin Implementation Plan includes a section on “Suggested Activities: 2015 and Beyond” which envisions an educational outreach plan that “maximizes existing opportunities and avoids duplication of efforts.” Key elements identified in the Metro and SP BI include a focus on developing messages, leveraging existing basin resources, complementing existing state efforts, and establishing success metrics, while expanding public awareness and support. This proposal is intended to be one of the first accomplishments of these key elements while serving as a bridge between the WSRA-funded education efforts and the newly envisioned CWCB-funded education efforts articulated in the State Plan; it builds on existing university water education programs in the State and looks to these students as future “water diplomats” of the aspirations articulated in the State Plan.

This proposal is for a two-day conference in September of 2015 to be hosted on the campus of Metropolitan State University of Denver (MSU Denver) by the One World One Water Center for Urban Education and Stewardship (OWOW). OWOW staff and MSU Denver faculty will invite 30 students and faculty from other campuses to Denver for an in-depth study of the Colorado State Water Plan as well as an overview of water essentials and Colorado Water Law and educational activities. All participating students will apply for paid work-study hours in connection with the conference and the required community/campus outreach activities to follow the conference. The students will be required to return to their campuses where they will present an overview of the State Water Plan, and the specifics of the appropriate basin implementation plan, to at least one class and one outside organization in their community. They will submit final reports for their work-study which will include a description of the members of the public to whom they reported and a summary of questions and concerns from their communities and classmates. Depending on the array of disciplines represented in the participating students, students may be asked to submit ideas for creative for materials that could be used for public outreach both in an online environment and printed materials. At the end of the Fall 2015 semester, the applicant will submit a final report to the CWCB and Basin Roundtables that summarizes the students’ reports. All faculty and staff will also submit reports.

A maximum of 30 students will come from MSU Denver, Colorado Mesa University, Colorado State University, University of Colorado, and the Colorado School of Mines. Faculty and staff from MSU Denver and CMU will contribute time and educational support as in-kind contribution to the project and will be assisted by faculty from the other institutions. MSU Denver will provide the space for classes,

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

speakers and educational activities and will also count towards in-kind contributions. CFWE, Greenway Foundation and Denver-based Earth Force will be key speakers and involved participants to the conference.

Part III. – Threshold and Evaluation Criteria

1. Describe how the water activity meets these **Threshold Criteria**. (Detailed in Part 3 of the Water Supply Reserve Account Criteria and Guidelines.)

- a) The water activity is consistent with Section 37-75-102 Colorado Revised Statutes.¹

This educational activity is consistent with C.R.S, Section 37-75-102.

- b) The water activity underwent an evaluation and approval process and was approved by the Basin Roundtable (BRT) and the application includes a description of the results of the BRT's evaluation and approval of the activity. At a minimum, the description must include the level of agreement reached by the roundtable, including any minority opinion(s) if there was not general agreement for the activity. The description must also include reasons why general agreement was not reached (if it was not), including who opposed the activity and why they opposed it. Note- If this information is included in the letter from the roundtable chair simply reference that letter.

Presented to the South Platte Basin Roundtable on Tuesday, January 13, 2014. The Roundtable is expected to agree to support the application with a letter of support. The SPBRT decision on the letter of support is more than 60 days before the CWCB March 18-19 meeting.

Presented to the Metro Basin Roundtable on Wednesday, December 10, 2014. The Metro Roundtable will decide on funding at their January 14, 2015 meeting which is more than 60 days before the CWCB March 18-19 meeting at which time the fate of the State-Wide Funds will be decided.

¹ 37-75-102. Water rights - protections. (1) It is the policy of the General Assembly that the current system of allocating water within Colorado shall not be superseded, abrogated, or otherwise impaired by this article. Nothing in this article shall be interpreted to repeal or in any manner amend the existing water rights adjudication system. The General Assembly affirms the state constitution's recognition of water rights as a private usufructuary property right, and this article is not intended to restrict the ability of the holder of a water right to use or to dispose of that water right in any manner permitted under Colorado law. (2) The General Assembly affirms the protections for contractual and property rights recognized by the contract and takings protections under the state constitution and related statutes. This article shall not be implemented in any way that would diminish, impair, or cause injury to any property or contractual right created by intergovernmental agreements, contracts, stipulations among parties to water cases, terms and conditions in water decrees, or any other similar document related to the allocation or use of water. This article shall not be construed to supersede, abrogate, or cause injury to vested water rights or decreed conditional water rights. The General Assembly affirms that this article does not impair, limit, or otherwise affect the rights of persons or entities to enter into agreements, contracts, or memoranda of understanding with other persons or entities relating to the appropriation, movement, or use of water under other provisions of law.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

- c) The water activity meets the provisions of Section 37-75-104(2), Colorado Revised Statutes.² The Basin Roundtable Chairs shall include in their approval letters for particular WSRA grant applications a description of how the water activity will assist in meeting the water supply needs identified in the basin roundtable's consumptive and/or non-consumptive needs assessments.

This application intends to carry forth the goals and objectives articulated in the Metro/South Platte Basin Implementation Plan as it addresses education and community engagement.

The Metro and South Platte Basin Implementation Plan includes a section on "Suggested Activities: 2015 and Beyond" which envisions an educational outreach plan that "maximizes existing opportunities and avoids duplication of efforts." Key elements identified in the Metro and SP BI include a focus on developing messages, leveraging existing basin resources, complementing existing state efforts, and establishing success metrics, while expanding public awareness and support. This proposal is intended to be one of the first accomplishments of these key elements while serving as a bridge between the WSRA-funded education efforts and the newly envisioned CWCB-funded education efforts articulated in the State Plan; it builds on existing university water education programs in the State and looks to these students as future "water diplomats" of the aspirations articulated in the State Plan.

- d) Matching Requirement: For requests from the **Statewide Fund**, the applicants will be required to demonstrate a **25 percent** (or greater) match of the total grant request from the other sources, including by not limited to Basin Funds. A minimum match of 5% of the total grant amount shall be from Basin funds. A minimum match of 5% of the total grant amount must come from the applicant or 3rd party sources. Sources of matching funds include but are not limited to Basin Funds, in-kind services, funding from other sources, and/or direct cash match. Past expenditures directly related to the project may be considered as matching funds if the expenditures occurred within 9 months of the date the contract or purchase order between the applicant and the State of Colorado is executed. Please describe the source(s) of matching funds. (NOTE: These matching funds should also be reflected in your Detailed Budget in **Exhibit A** of this application)

Total grant request: \$28,875

Total Statewide Funds Requested: \$24,300

Total Metro Basin RT Funds Requested: \$4,575 (15.8% of total grant amount requested)

Total In-kind contributions: \$52,750 (182% of total grant amount requested; this amount could change depending on involvement of faculty members, number of speakers from outside organizations, amount

² 37-75-104 (2)(c). Using data and information from the Statewide Water Supply Initiative and other appropriate sources and in cooperation with the on-going Statewide Water Supply Initiative, develop a basin-wide consumptive and nonconsumptive water supply needs assessment, conduct an analysis of available unappropriated waters within the basin, and propose projects or methods, both structural and nonstructural, for meeting those needs and utilizing those unappropriated waters where appropriate. Basin Roundtables shall actively seek the input and advice of affected local governments, water providers, and other interested stakeholders and persons in establishing its needs assessment, and shall propose projects or methods for meeting those needs. Recommendations from this assessment shall be forwarded to the Interbasin Compact Committee and other basin roundtables for analysis and consideration after the General Assembly has approved the Interbasin Compact Charter.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

of hours dedicated from coordinators; space requirements on campus. Breakdown of tasks and WSRA Funds Requested and Non-WSRA Contributions appears in Exhibit2 and the Budget Table.

For Applications that include a request for funds from the **Statewide Account**, describe how the water activity/project meets all applicable **Evaluation Criteria**. (Detailed in Part 3 of the Water Supply Reserve Account Criteria and Guidelines and repeated below.) Projects will be assessed on how well they meet the Evaluation Criteria. **Please attach additional pages as necessary.**

Evaluation Criteria – the following criteria will be utilized to further evaluate the merits of the water activity proposed for funding from the Statewide Account. In evaluation of proposed water activities, preference will be given to projects that meet one or more criteria from each of the three “tiers” or categories. Each “tier” is grouped in level of importance. For instance, projects that meet Tier 1 criteria will outweigh projects that only meet Tier 3 criteria. The applicant should also refer to the Supplemental Scoring Matrix applied to Evaluation Criteria Tiers 1-3 for Statewide Account requests. WSRA grant requests for projects that may qualify for loans through the CWCB loan program will receive preference in the Statewide Evaluation Criteria if the grant request is part of a CWCB loan/WSRA grant package. For these CWCB loan/WSRA grant packages, the applicant must have a CWCB loan/WSRA grant ratio of 1:1 or higher. Preference will be given to those with a higher loan/grant ratio.

Tier 1: Promoting Collaboration/Cooperation and Meeting Water Management Goals and Identified Water Needs

- a. The water activity addresses multiple needs or issues, including consumptive and/or non-consumptive needs, or the needs and issues of multiple interests or multiple basins. This can be demonstrated by obtaining letters of support from other basin roundtables (in addition to an approval letter from the sponsoring basin).
- b. The number and types of entities represented in the application and the degree to which the activity will promote cooperation and collaboration among traditional consumptive water interests and/or non-consumptive interests, and if applicable, the degree to which the water activity is effective in addressing intrabasin or interbasin needs or issues.
- c. The water activity helps implement projects and processes identified as helping meet Colorado’s future water needs, and/or addresses the gap areas between available water supply and future need as identified in SWSI or a roundtable’s basin-wide water needs assessment.

Tier 2: Facilitating Water Activity Implementation

- d. Funding from this Account will reduce the uncertainty that the water activity will be implemented. For this criterion the applicant should discuss how receiving funding from the Account will make a significant difference in the implementation of the water activity (i.e., how will receiving funding enable the water activity to move forward or the inability obtaining funding elsewhere).
- e. The amount of matching funds provided by the applicant via direct contributions, demonstrable in-kind contributions, and/or other sources demonstrates a significant & appropriate commitment to the project.

Tier 3: The Water Activity Addresses Other Issues of Statewide Value and Maximizes Benefits

- f. The water activity helps sustain agriculture & open space, or meets environmental or recreational needs.
- g. The water activity assists in the administration of compact-entitled waters or addresses problems related to compact entitled waters and compact compliance and the degree to which the activity promotes maximum utilization of state waters.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

- h. The water activity assists in the recovery of threatened and endangered wildlife species or Colorado State species of concern.
- i. The water activity provides a high level of benefit to Colorado in relationship to the amount of funds requested.
- j. The water activity is complimentary to or assists in the implementation of other CWCB programs.

Continued: Explanation of how the water activity/project meets all applicable **Evaluation Criteria**.

Please attach additional pages as necessary.

- Tier 1:** a) This educational activity will promote collaboration and cooperation across the State and throughout the basins because its objectives are in-line with those articulated in Section 9.5 of the State Water Plan that recognizes that “[t]o achieve a sustainable water future, Coloradans must be sophisticated water users” and that “community discourse around balanced water solutions” must be promoted. This activity will engage the State’s university students in being champions of that discourse and of becoming informed messengers of the State’s efforts in meeting our water gap. Because the Applicant is Metropolitan State University of Denver, the Metro Roundtable has been requested to be the basin fund sponsor; the South Platte Basin Roundtable has been asked for a letter of support. Although students from the Colorado Basin will be participating in the conference, the Applicant did not approach the Colorado Basin Roundtable and instead foresees a reciprocal conference in the Spring of 2016 at Colorado Mesa University at which time the Colorado Basin Roundtable would be involved. The applicant foresees an ongoing revolving conference modeled on this one that would repeat every fall.
- b) The various universities across the State who will be involved in this water activity include Metropolitan State University of Denver (Metro Rdtable), Colorado Mesa University (Colorado Basin), Colorado State University (South Platte Basin Rdtable), Colorado School of Mines and the University of Colorado (Metro and South Platte Basin). The very essence of the educational conference is to promote communication, cooperation and collaboration among the future leaders of this State. Transparent and trusting communications across the State is essential for the effective achievement of the goals of the State Water Plan.
- Tier 2:** d) Funding from the Metro Basin Roundtable and the State-wide Account will reduce distrust and fear that still exists between the basins because it will embolden university students to understand the fact that “what is good for Colorado is good” for each and every basin. Spreading knowledge on the facts of the Plan and the current challenges meeting the State’s water supply and demands will lay the ground work for the “outreach, education, and public engagement” for which the State Plan calls. 30 university students will participate in this activity and will be key voices when they return to their respective universities and communities. The current budget of the OWOW Center and MSU Denver does not allow for this kind of an in-depth field work and “boot camp” focused on the State Water Plan without external funding. The September 2015 date is critical in order to engage some of these students who will be graduating before the CWCB grant framework outlined in 9.5 is put in place in 2016 and beyond.
- Tier 3:** j) The water activity is complimentary to on-going efforts of PEPO and CFWE; it addresses key issues presented in the educational considerations of both the State Plan and the Metro/SP Basin Implementation Plan. It is of Statewide Value because it will bring together 30 students-future leaders—from diverse backgrounds and communities across the State. It also will foster collaboration and communication between state campuses and faculty from a variety of disciplines.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

Part IV. – Required Supporting Material

1. **Water Rights, Availability, and Sustainability** – This information is needed to assess the viability of the water project or activity. Please provide a description of the water supply source to be utilized, or the water body to be affected by, the water activity. This should include a description of applicable water rights, and water rights issues, and the name/location of water bodies affected by the water activity.

No water supply sources are involved in this activity. No water rights will be affected. The South Platte River flowing through Denver will be the key water source for many of the activities planned for the weekend. The South Platte River will allow students the opportunity for water “field experiences” that the students can take back to their respective water ways in their own communities. Students will learn the basics of water rights, availability and sustainability in various lectures and educational exercises throughout the conference in order to understand the context and details of the State Plan.

2. Please provide a brief narrative of any related studies or permitting issues.

No permitting issues involved. Related studies include ongoing water study programs at the various institutions involved.

3. Statement of Work, Detailed Budget, and Project Schedule

The statement of work will form the basis for the contract between the Applicant and the State of Colorado. In short, the Applicant is agreeing to undertake the work for the compensation outlined in the statement of work and budget, and in return, the State of Colorado is receiving the deliverables/products specified. **Please note that costs incurred prior to execution of a contract or purchase order are not subject to reimbursement.** All WSRA funds are disbursed on a reimbursement basis after review invoices and appropriate backup material.

Please provide a detailed statement of work using the template in Exhibit A. Additional sections or modifications may be included as necessary. Please define all acronyms and include page numbers. **See Exhibit A attached.**

REPORTING AND FINAL DELIVERABLE

Reporting: The applicant shall provide the CWCB a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of the executed contract. The progress report shall describe the completion or partial completion of the tasks identified in the statement of work including a description of any major issues that have occurred and any corrective action taken to address these issues.

Final Deliverable: At completion of the project, the applicant shall provide the CWCB a final report that summarizes the project and documents how the project was completed. This report may contain photographs, summaries of meetings and engineering reports/designs.

PAYMENT

Payment will be made based on actual expenditures and invoicing by the applicant. Invoices from any other entity (i.e. subcontractors) cannot be processed by the State. The request for payment must include a description of the work accomplished by major task, and estimate of the percent completion for individual tasks and the entire water activity in relation to the percentage of budget spent, identification of any major issues and proposed or implemented corrective actions. The last 10 percent of the entire water activity budget will be withheld until final project/water activity documentation is completed. All products, data and information developed as a result of this grant must be provided to the CWCB in hard copy and electronic format as part of the project documentation. This information will in turn be made widely available to Basin Roundtables and the general public and help promote the development of a common technical platform.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised October 2013

The above statements are true to the best of my knowledge:

Signature of Applicant: *Elizabeth McVicker*

Print Applicant's Name: Elizabeth McVicker, Associate Professor, Metropolitan State University of Denver
c/o: Gwendolyn M. Mami, M.A., J.D.

Executive Director, Office of Sponsored Research and Programs

Campus Box 4, P.O. Box 173362

Denver, CO 80217 Phone: (303) 352-7004 gmami@msudenver.edu

Return an electronic version (hardcopy may also be submitted) of this application to:

Craig Godbout – WSRA Application

Colorado Water Conservation Board

1313 Sherman St., Room 721

Denver, CO 80203

303-866-3441, ext. 3210 (office)

303-547-8061 (cell)

craig.godbout@state.co.us